

## National

1. **The 22nd Indian Institute of Management (IIM)** is set to be established in **Guwahati, Assam**, with an investment of **₹555 crore**. Parliament recently cleared the Bill for its establishment.

Union Education Minister **Dharmendra Pradhan** announced that the new premier management institute will begin admitting students from the **current academic year**. The move aims to expand access to high-quality management education in the North-East and contribute to regional as well as national economic growth.

With this, India now has a total of **22 IIMs** spread across the country.

Country's first IIM is – **IIM Kolkata (1961)**.



2. **Ministry of Law and Justice Notifies Income-tax Act, 2025**

On **21 August 2025**, the **Ministry of Law and Justice** notified the **Income-tax Act, 2025**, repealing the **six-decade-old Income-tax Act, 1961**. The new Act **consolidates and restructures all provisions in sequence** and is set to come into force from **1 April 2026**.

3. **Viksit Bharat 2047**: PM charted a bold roadmap for a Viksit Bharat by 2047. With a sharp focus on self-reliance, innovation, and citizen empowerment, the Prime Minister highlighted India's journey from a nation dependent on others to a globally confident, technologically advanced, and economically resilient country. It includes Atmanirbhar Bharat, Strengthening Technology, Industry; Mission Sudarshan Chakra, Enhancing Strategic Defence; PM Vikshit Bharat Rozgar Yojana of INR 1 Lakh Crore Employment targeting 3 Cr youth



4. **Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi inaugurated 'Agnishodh'** – the **Indian Army Research Cell (IARC)** at **IIT Madras**, aimed at integrating academic research with real-time military applications. The initiative supports **Army modernization under the Five Pillars of Transformation** and the vision of **“SWADESHIKARAN SE**

**SASHAKTIKARAN**". Focus areas include **cybersecurity, quantum computing, additive manufacturing, wireless communication, and drones**, marking a major step toward **Atmanirbharta** in defence technology.



5. On August 6, 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated KARTAVYA BHAVAN, the first of ten upcoming Common Central Secretariat buildings, designed to house ministries under one roof for greater efficiency.
6. **Ajni (Nagpur)–Pune Vande Bharat Express: India's Longest and Fastest**  
Inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on **10 August 2025**, the Ajni (Nagpur)–Pune Vande Bharat



**Express** is now India's longest and fastest Vande Bharat train. Covering a distance of **881 km in just 12 hours**, it exemplifies speed, efficiency, and modern rail travel.

7. **ICMR and DHR Launch S.H.I.N.E. Initiative for Students**  
On **7–8 August 2025**, the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** and **Department of Health Research (DHR)** launched the **S.H.I.N.E.** initiative—**Science, Health and Innovation for Nextgen Explorers**. The program aims to **spark scientific curiosity** and inspire students in **grades 9–12** to explore careers in **health and biomedical research**.
8. **Union Health Ministry Launches SHRESTH to Strengthen Drug Regulation**  
On **12 August 2025**, India's **Union Health Ministry** launched the **State Health Regulatory Excellence Index (SHRESTH)**, a first-of-its-kind national framework to benchmark and improve **drug regulatory systems** across states and Union Territories. Proposed by the **Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO)**, SHRESTH uses a **data-driven, transparent approach** to assess **human resources, infrastructure, licensing, and surveillance**, guiding states toward "**maturity certification**" aligned with global standards.

## States

Punjab has rolled out the 'Baaq Akh' Anti-Drone System from **Tarn Taran** to curb cross-border drug smuggling. The system, operational along the **Pathankot–Fazilka** border in coordination with the **BSF**, can neutralize drones entering the state. Three units are active, with six more planned, providing a strong response to anti-national elements using technology for illegal activities.



The Chief Minister's Thayumanavar Scheme, launched by the chief minister M K Stalin, **Tamil Nadu Government**, is a **welfare initiative** aimed at supporting **vulnerable populations**, especially the **elderly** and **persons with disabilities**. The scheme has **two main components**:

**Poverty Eradication Initiative** – ensuring financial and social upliftment of marginalized groups.

**Door-to-Door Delivery Service** – providing essential civic goods directly to the homes of the elderly and differently-abled, ensuring dignity and convenience.

The scheme reflects the state government's commitment to **inclusive growth, social justice, and last-mile delivery of welfare measures**.

Gomti Nagar Railway Station, Lucknow has become **Uttar Pradesh's first privately managed railway station** under a hybrid model. Private operators will handle **cleanliness, catering, and upkeep**, while Indian Railways retains **operations, security, and ticketing**—a pilot step toward **world-class, airport-like station facilities**.

Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma launched **MUKHYA MANTRIR NIJUT MOINA 2.0** in Guwahati, a monthly financial assistance scheme aimed at boosting girls' enrolment in higher education.

On August 10, Sikkim Chief Minister Prem Singh Tamang-Golay launched **NARI ADALAT** at Rangpo ground under the Women, Child, Senior Citizen, and Divyanjan Department, marking the first Amma Samman Diwas.

Mangalore topped the mid-2025 Numbeo Safety Index as India's safest city, securing the 49th spot globally.

Odisha Bans Use of "Harijan" in Official Communications

The **Odisha government** has prohibited the use of the word **"Harijan"** in all official communications. This move, following guidelines from the **Odisha Human Rights Commission (OHRC)**, aims to promote **respectful and accurate terminology**.



### **Maharashtra CM Launches ‘Garuda Drishti’ to Monitor Social Media**

Maharashtra Chief Minister **Devendra Fadnavis** launched ‘**Garuda Drishti**’, a system aimed at detecting **fraudulent activities** and **Communal hatred** on social media that could lead to riots. CM Fadnavis emphasized that the state now has access to **world-class technology** to prevent such incidents effectively.



### **Operation Sahyog: Assam Rifles and IAF Conduct Humanitarian Relief in Manipur**

In early August 2025, Operation Sahyog, a joint humanitarian mission by the Assam Rifles and Indian Air Force (IAF), was carried out in Churachandpur district, Manipur. The operation delivered essential supplies to 18 remote villages in the Henglep sub-division that had been cut off from regular access.

## **Science & Technology**

**Dhruva Space** launched its first commercial mission **LEAP-1** in Q3 2025 aboard a **SpaceX Falcon 9**.

- Platform: **P-30 satellite** (indigenously developed)
- Payloads:
  - AI module – **Akula Tech**
  - Hyperspectral imager – **Esper Satellites**
- Significance: India's **first commercial satellite deployment by a private startup**, showcasing an “orbit-as-a-service” model.



**Russia's Venera-D Mission** is being developed to explore **Venus**, one of the least understood planets in our solar system. The ambitious project will carry multiple components, including:

- **Orbital spacecraft** – to study Venus from space
- **Lander** – to analyse the surface directly
- **Balloon probe** – to investigate the atmosphere and climate systems

The mission's primary goal is a **comprehensive scientific study of Venus's atmosphere, surface, and climatic conditions**.

The **launch window is scheduled between 2034 and 2036**, marking Russia's return to Venus exploration after its earlier **Venera program** in the Soviet era.

In the Counterpoint Research 2025 Global AI City Index, Bengaluru ranked as the **top Indian city**, securing the **26th spot globally**.

- **Global Leader:** Singapore (1st), followed by Seoul, Beijing & Dubai
- **IN Other Indian Cities:** Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai, Kolkata also featured
- **Bengaluru's Strengths:** AI R&D, data centers, startup ecosystem, foreign investments

Bengaluru is recognized as **India's leading AI hub**.

1. Singapore → 3. Seoul (South Korea) → 3. Beijing (China)

A new and rare blood group, CRIB, was discovered in a woman from **Kolar district, Karnataka**.

- Initially classified as **O Rh+**, her blood was found incompatible with available O+ units during pre-surgery tests.
- Research confirmed it as a **previously unknown blood group**.
- Named **CRIB** after **Cromer, India, and Bangalore**.



Goa launched the 'Har Ghar Fibre' initiative to provide **high-speed internet to every household**, including remote areas. Aim: Boost **digital empowerment, connectivity, and quality of life** for citizens.

NASA's Crew-11 mission launched on **1st August 2025** from **Florida** under the **Commercial Crew Program**.

- Vehicle: **SpaceX Dragon** on **Falcon 9**
- Crew: 4-member international team
- Mission: Long-duration stay at the **ISS** to conduct **scientific research & health studies** supporting future **deep space travel**.



BlueBird satellite (image representation purpose only)



NASA's Crew-11

**ISRO will launch the 6,500 kg Block-2 BlueBird satellite**, developed by AST SpaceMobile (USA), aboard LVM3 from Sriharikota. Equipped with a **64 m<sup>2</sup> array**, it will enable **direct-to-smartphone connectivity** with speeds up to **120 Mbps**, marking a key step in **Indo-U.S. space collaboration** and global broadband expansion.

**ISRO has launched the HOPE (Himalayan Outpost for Planetary Exploration)** mission in Ladakh's Tso Kar Valley. The space analog facility simulates extreme cold, low oxygen, and rocky terrain to test technologies and protocols for future human spaceflight.

**India Conducts First Drone-AI-Based Artificial Rainfall Experiment in Jaipur**

India carried out its **first drone-AI-powered cloud seeding experiment** at **Ramgarh Dam, Jaipur, Rajasthan**, to induce **artificial rainfall**. The initiative aims to **replenish the reservoir**, support **agriculture**, enhance **water supply**, and promote **biodiversity** in the region.



## Sports

**India's first FIFA Talent Academy for Women** was inaugurated at the **Gachibowli Stadium Complex, Hyderabad (Telangana)**.

- Collaboration: **FIFA + AIFF + Telangana Govt.**
- Part of **FIFA's Talent Development Scheme (TDS)** to nurture young women footballers.

**Mirabai Chanu**, India's star weightlifter, won **gold** at the **Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships 2025** held in **Ahmedabad, India**.

This victory also secures her **qualification for the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, Scotland**.



Arunachal Pradesh mountaineer Kabak Yano achieved two major feats in August 2025:



- **Mount Kilimanjaro (Africa's highest peak)** – Summit on **4th August 2025**
- **Mount Elbrus (Europe's highest peak)** – Summit on **16th August 2025**

These climbs mark her as one of the rising mountaineering icons from the North-East.

Khalid Jamil was appointed as the **Head Coach of the Indian Senior Men's National Football Team** by the AIFF in **August 2025**

- Contract: **2 years** (extendable by 1 year)
- Significance: **First Indian head coach in over a decade**



Manipur won the **B.C. Roy Trophy** (Junior Boys' National Football Championship) 2025–26 edition.



S. Rohith Krishna Becomes India's 89th Chess Grandmaster

In August 2025, S. Rohith Krishna achieved his **third and final Grandmaster norm** at the Almaty Masters Qonaev Cup in Kazakhstan, becoming **India's 89th Chess Grandmaster**.

Hockey Punjab Wins 15th Hockey India Sub-Junior Men National Championship 2025. Hockey Punjab emerged as champions of the **15th Hockey India Sub-Junior Men National Championship 2025**, defeating Hockey Jharkhand 4-3 in the **Division 'A' final** (Chennai, 8 August 2025).

### 2025 Men's Hockey Asia Cup

The **12th edition** of the **Men's Hockey Asia Cup**, Asia's quadrennial international men's field hockey championship organized by the **Asian Hockey Federation**, will be held at the **Bihar Sports University Hockey Stadium, Rajgir Sports Complex, India**, from **29 August to 7 September 2025**.

## International

### India to be "Guest of Honour" at 38th Bogotá International Book Fair 2026

India has been designated as the **GUEST OF HONOUR** for the 38th Bogotá International Book Fair (FILBo) in 2026. This recognition marks a new phase of cultural collaboration and strengthened ties between India and Colombia, with the National Book Trust of India serving as the nodal agency for the event.

Myanmar's National Defence and Security Council (NDSC) have formed a **new Union Government** along with a **State Security and Peace Commission**.

- **Prime Minister: U Nyo Saw**
- **Aim:** To strengthen governance and security structures in the country

*In the IMD Smart City Index 2025, Zurich (Switzerland)* was ranked the **world's smartest city**, retaining its top spot with advances in **technology, infrastructure, and governance**.

- **Oslo (Norway)** and **Geneva (Switzerland)** followed in the top ranks.
- **Delhi-104, Mumbai-106.**

### Moldova Joins International Solar Alliance as 107th Member

On **4 August 2025**, **Moldova** became the **107th member** of the **International Solar Alliance (ISA)** by submitting its Instrument of Ratification in **New Delhi**.



The 1st BIMSTEC Traditional Music Festival was held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi on **4th August 2025**.

- Musicians from all **7 BIMSTEC nations** (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand) performed.
- Announced by PM Modi during the **6th BIMSTEC Summit**; aimed at boosting **people-to-people ties**.
- Inaugurated by **External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar**.





### SLINEX-25: India-Sri Lanka Naval Exercise

SLINEX-25, the 12th India-Sri Lanka Naval Exercise, was held in August 2025 in Colombo, featuring joint drills, gunnery firing, and special forces exercises to enhance maritime cooperation and bilateral ties.

### 2025 Russia–United States Summit

On 15 August 2025, US President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin met at Joint Base Elmendorf–Richardson, Anchorage, Alaska. The summit focused primarily on the ongoing Russo-Ukrainian War.

## Economy

On 6 August 2025, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) kept the repo rate unchanged at 5.5% during its MPC meeting, citing easing inflation and strong macroeconomic indicators. RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra announced the decision, which was unanimously backed by all six MPC members.

### India's "Rudrastra" Becomes Asia's Longest Freight Train

Asia's longest freight train, **Rudrastra**, operated by Indian Railways, successfully completed its trial run on **7 August 2025**. Stretching **4.5 km** with **354 wagons and seven locomotives**, the train ran from **Ganjkhawaja (U.P.)** to **Garhwa (Jharkhand)**, covering **209 km** in just over five hours.



PM Narendra Modi released the 20th instalment of PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi from Varanasi on 2<sup>nd</sup> August.

- Amount: **₹20,500 crore**
- Beneficiaries: **9.7 crore farmers** across India
- Each eligible farmer receives **₹6,000 annually** in three installments.
- The 20th instalment continues the direct benefit transfer to support **small and marginal farmers** across India.

## Books & Authors

A TREATISE FOR THE REMARKABLE ROHIT refers to reviews of the book THE RISE OF THE HITMAN: THE ROHIT SHARMA STORY, authored by R. Kaushik. The biography provides a detailed account of **Rohit Sharma's cricketing journey**, covering his early days, rise in international cricket, and major achievements as a leading Indian cricketer.

### Justice D.Y. Chandrachud Unveils Cover of First Book 'Why the Constitution Matters'

the cover of **'Why the Constitution Matters'**, the first book by former **Chief Justice of India, Justice D.Y. Chandrachud**, has been unveiled. The book is scheduled to be published by **Penguin Random House** by the end of **August 2025**.

The Conscience Network, A Chronicle of Resistance to a Dictatorship, written by Sugata Srinivasaraju.

**Book Spotlight: GUNNED DOWN – MURDER OF AN OLYMPIC CHAMPION**

SUNDEEP MISRA'S book, "Gunned Down – Murder of An Olympic Champion," chronicles the life and unsolved murder of Indian hockey legend Prithipal Singh. A three-time Olympic medalist and renowned penalty corner specialist, Singh won silver in 1960, gold in 1964, and bronze in 1968. He was tragically murdered in broad daylight on the Punjab Agriculture University campus in Ludhiana in 1983.

## **Appointments**

**Sonali Mishra (IPS, 1993 batch, MP cadre)** took charge as the **Director General of Railway Protection Force (RPF)** on **1st August 2025**.

- First woman to head the **143-year-old RPF**
- Tenure: Till **31st October 2026**
- Appointment cleared by the **Appointments Committee of the Cabinet**

**Mrs. S. Radha Chauhan** (IAS, 1988 batch, UP cadre), former **DoPT Secretary**, took charge as **Chairperson of the Capacity Building Commission (CBC)** on **6th August 2025** in New Delhi.

- Successor to: **Adil Zainulbhai**
- Role: Oversee civil services training & reforms under **Mission Karmayogi**

**Dr. A. Rajarajan** assumed charge as the **Director of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC)** on **1st August 2025**, succeeding **Dr. S. Unnikrishnan Nair**.

- Veteran ISRO scientist, expert in **composite technology**
- Former Director of **SDSC SHAR**
- Key contributor to **Chandrayaan-3, Aditya-L1, and Vikram-S** missions

## **Important Dates in August**

**National Handloom Day Celebrations:** Celebrated on August 7 to honour the handloom sector, with events promoting local artisans and sustainable textiles. The government launched a new e-marketplace for handloom products. This initiative supports rural livelihoods and cultural heritage.



**Hiroshima Day** is observed every year on **6th August** to mark the **atomic bombing of Hiroshima in 1945**, the first use of a nuclear weapon in war.

The day reminds the world of the **devastating impact of nuclear weapons** and reinforces the call for **peace & disarmament**.

**The Quit India Movement** was launched by the Indian National Congress on **8 August 1942** under Mahatma Gandhi's leadership. Marked by the slogans **"QUIT INDIA" (BHARAT CHODO)** and **"DO OR DIE"**, it became a mass movement demanding an end to British rule.

### **International Youth Day – 12 August**

Observed annually on **12 August**, **International Youth Day** highlights Youth-related issues on the global stage and celebrates the **potential of young people as partners in building today's society**.

The theme for International Youth Day 2025 is **"Local Youth Actions for the SDGs and Beyond"**



**The official theme for India's 79th Independence Day** in 2025 was **"Naya Bharat" (New India)**, highlighting the vision of a **prosperous, secure, and self-reliant India by 2047**. Aligned with the government's **Viksit Bharat** initiative, the celebrations emphasized **unity, technological progress, and national development**.

### **World Organ Donation Day – 13 August**

Observed annually on **13 August**, **World Organ Donation Day** raises awareness about the **importance of organ donation** and encourages people to become donors. The day aims to **educate the public**, honor donors, and recognize the **life-saving impact** of organ donation on recipients and their families.

### **Gujarat Celebrates World Lion Day 2025 with Wildlife Conservation Drive**

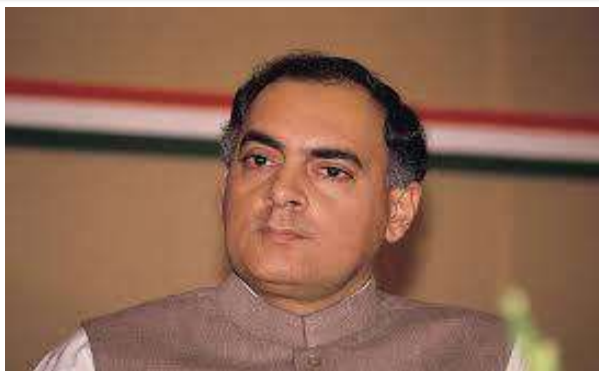
On **10 August 2025**, Gujarat marked **World Lion Day** with a **mega wildlife conservation drive** at **Barda Wildlife Sanctuary**. The state's **lion population has grown by 32%** since 2020, rising from **674 to 891** as per the May 2025 estimates. Spanning **192.31 sq. km** across **Porbandar and Devbhumi Dwarka districts**, Barda is emerging as a **second home for Asiatic lions**, strengthening conservation efforts.





Sadbhavana Diwas 2025 – 20 August

Observed on **20 August**, **Sadbhavana Day** honors **Rajiv Gandhi's birth anniversary** and promotes **national integration, peace, and communal harmony** through the **Sadbhavana Pledge**.



World Biofuel Day – 10 August

Observed annually on **10 August**, **World Biofuel Day** commemorates Sir Rudolf Diesel's pioneering 1893 experiment using peanut oil to power a diesel engine. The day highlights the growing importance of **biofuels as a sustainable alternative to fossil fuels** and promotes awareness about renewable energy.

## Awards & Honours

At the 71st National Film Awards, announced on **1 August 2025** in **New Delhi**:

- The **Best Feature Film** award went to **12th Fail**
- **Best Actor (Male)** saw a tie:
  - **Vikrant Massey** won for **12th Fail**, marking his first National Award.
  - **Shah Rukh Khan** also won for **Jawan**, which is his **first-ever National Award** in a 30-year career

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari received the 43rd Lokmanya Tilak National Award in **Pune**, presented by the **Lokmanya Tilak Smarak Trust**.

- Award: For significant contributions to **national progress**
- Gadkari urged transforming Tilak's vision of **Swarajya into Surajya** through **good governance**
- Highlighted India's potential to become a **global leader** with skilled youth & technocrats



**Bibi Fatima Women's SHG Wins UNDP Equator Prize 2025**

The Bibi Fatima Women's Self-Help Group from Teertha village, Dharwad, Karnataka, won the UNDP Equator Prize 2025 for their community-led, nature-based solutions in biodiversity conservation and sustainable livelihoods. Among 10 global winners, they were recognized for promoting climate-resilient farming, millet cultivation, and women's entrepreneurship, including a solar-powered millet processing unit. The award was presented on 9 August 2025, the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples, with the theme "Women and Youth Leadership for Nature-Based Climate Action".

**PM Modi Launches M.S. Swaminathan Global Award for Food Security**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the M.S. Swaminathan Global Award, named after the father of India's Green Revolution, to honor outstanding contributions in food security and sustainable agriculture in developing countries. The announcement was made during the M.S. Swaminathan Centennial International Conference in Delhi, where PM Modi also released a centenary commemorative postage stamp. The first recipient is Nigerian scientist Dr. Adenle, recognized for his transformative work in hunger eradication in Nigeria.



**Manika Vishwakarma Crowned Miss Universe India 2025**

Manika Vishwakarma from Rajasthan won the Miss Universe India 2025 title in Jaipur on 18 August 2025. She will represent India at the 74th Miss Universe pageant in Thailand later this year.

## Obituary

**Former Jammu & Kashmir Governor Satyapal Malik** passed away in New Delhi at the age of 79 after a prolonged illness.

He had also served as Governor of Goa, Bihar, and Meghalaya during his career.



**Shibu Soren (81), veteran tribal leader and three-time Jharkhand CM**, passed away in Delhi while undergoing treatment for kidney ailments. A co-founder of the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM), he played a pivotal role in the creation of Jharkhand but never completed any of his CM terms due to political instability.

## Others

**India will host the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Impact Summit in New Delhi** on 19–20 February 2026.

- Follows the global AI summits:
  - Paris – AI Action Summit (2025)
  - Seoul – AI Summit (2024)
  - Bletchley Park, UK – AI Safety Summit (2023)

**In August 2025, the Punjab Government lifted the ban on traditional**

**heritage sports** such as **bullock cart races, dog races, horse races, and pigeon racing**. These sports had been banned since **1997** over animal cruelty concerns.

